Amendments to the Specification:

Please delete the paragraph on page 12, lines 32-33, and replace it with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 14 is a depiction of transcriptional initiation sites and putative promoter regions for the *celY* promoter in DH5α (pLOI2323). **Transcriptional starts for *celY* were identified by primer extension analysis. Four promoters (SEQ ID NOS 18-21, respectively in order of appearance) were identified. Upstream sequences of these promoters with similarity to *E. coli* –35 and –10 regions are marked with underlines. RNA start sites are bolded. Putative promoters are numbered in parenthesis adjacent to the start site in descending order from the strongest. Differences in intensities were small, within 2-fold.**

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 50, line 26 and ending on page 51, line 2, and replace it with the following paragraph:

The structural features of the novel vector pLOI2306 are schematically shown in Fig. 8 and the nucleotide sequence of the vector, including various coding regions (*i.e.*, of the genes *celZ*, *bla*, and *tet*), are indicated in SEQ ID NO: 12 of the sequence listing **(the amino acid sequences are disclosed as SEQ ID NOS 22-24)**. Nucleotide base pairs 3282-4281, which represent non-coding sequence downstream of the *celZ* gene (obtained from *E. chrysanthemi*), and base pairs 9476-11544 which represent a portion of the non-coding target sequence obtained from *K. oxytoca* M5A1, remain to be sequenced using standard techniques (*e.g.*, as described in Sambrook, J. *et al.*, T. *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual. 2nd, ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory,* Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, (1989); *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, eds. Ausubel *et al.*, John Wiley & Sons (1992)). For example, sufficient flanking sequence on either side of the aforementioned unsequenced regions of the pLOI2306 plasmid is provided such that sequencing primers that correspond to these known sequences can be synthesized and used to carry out standard sequencing reactions using the pLOI2306 plasmid as a template.

Please delete the Sequence Listing and replace it with the substitute Sequence Listing (pages 1-29) submitted herewith.